Students and Public Education Legislation 2011 Ann McColl

2011 Regular Session Impact on Students and Public Schools

167 Bills tracked

78 Crossed over

45 Ratified

2 Vetoed

13 Policy provisions in budget bill

A frequent recurrence to fundamental principles is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty.

~N.C. Constitution, Article I., Sec. 35

The people have a right to the privilege of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right.

~N.C. Constitution, Article I., Sec. 15

Guiding Principles for Legislation

- 1. Maintain a focus on success for all students.
- 2. Provide the infrastructure necessary to support student success and the operation of public schools.
- 3. Ensure governance that is transparent, accountable, and effective.
- 4. Use innovative, sound approaches to crafting reforms and addressing economic challenges.
- 5. Provide responsible local control and flexibility.

Organizing Concepts

- * Reshaping Education
- * Impact on Globally Competitive Students
- * Impact on Healthy and Responsible Students
- * Impact on Twenty-First Century Professionals
- * Impact on Efficiency & Funding Mechanisms
- * Commissions & Studies

Reshaping Education



Charter Schools

- * Completely lifts cap
- * Gives authority to SBE for charters
- * Allows 20% growth beyond charter/previous year
- * Sets minimum academic standards

Charter Schools: Issues not addressed

- * Virtual charter schools
- * Access to charter schools (geographic, economic, other elements of diversity)

Transfer & Repurpose Prekindergarten

- * No more than 20% of those served may be at risk
- * Parent co-payment is required
- * Prekindergarten will be regulated as a child care program
- * Participation option first given to local partnerships (rather than public schools)
- * State funding reduced by 20%

Manning Ruling

- * 20% cap on at-risk children is unconstitutional
- * the State shall not enforce any other law/regulation that denies admission to eligible at-risk four year olds
- * the State shall not deny any eligible at-risk four year old admission to the NC Pre-Kindergarten program

"A child so severely afflicted with mental, emotional, or physical incapacity as to make it impossible for such child to profit by instruction given in the public schools shall not be permitted to attend the public schools of the state. ... If the parent or guardian of such a child persists in forcing his attendance after such report has determined that the child should not attend the public schools, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished in the discretion of the court."~1965 N.C. Sess. Laws. 641

Tax Credit for Children with Disabilities

- * Up to \$3000 per semester tax credit to cover actual expenses
- * Child may be in private school, public school that charges tuition, or home school
- * Cost savings to State in not serving the child is placed in "Fund for Special Education and Related Services

Tax Credit for Children with Disabilities

- * Child with disability whose IEP developed by public school provides for daily special education or related services
- * The child must be reevaluated every 3 years by the LEA to determine continued eligibility
- * Child must be enrolled in public schools for two semesters (only one beginning in 2016)

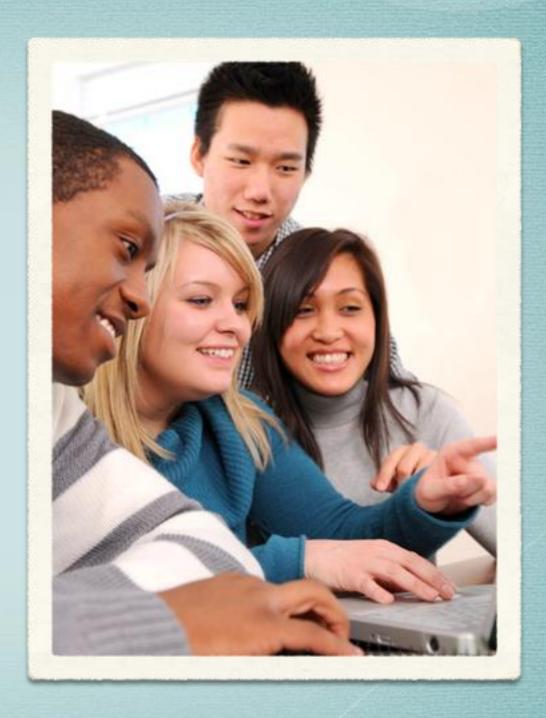
Dropout Recovery Pilot Program

- * New Hanover County Schools and 3 other LEAs
- * "Education Partners" nonprofit or for profit entity
- * Reengage students through blended learning environment and flexible scheduling
- * 95% of ADM funding transferred to partner
- * LEA responsible for issuing diploma

Other Shifts in Education

- * Provide opportunity for LEAs to form separate corporate entity to create regional schools
- * Provide option of high school accreditation through State Board
- * Eliminate funding for Governor's Schools
- * Eliminate funding for 1 of 3 residential schools and require closing/consolidation
- * Transfer funds for agriculture curriculum to NCSU

Impact on Globally Competitive Students



Career and College Promise

- * Consolidates and replaces existing high school transition/dual enrollment programs
- * Redefines Cooperative Innovative High Schools

High School to Work Partnerships

- * Local boards shall encourage high schools to establish contact person
- * Local boards shall develop policy to address student absences while job shadowing:
 - * (1) students allowed to make up work
 - * (2) can establish maximum number of days

Diagnostics & Assessment

- * 4 of 7 high school tests removed
- * SBE prohibited from adding tests not required by federal law
- * Early grade diagnostics pilot eliminated

Diagnostics & Assessment

- * General Assembly approved model for high school diagnostics and assessment
- * Founding principles legislation identifies elements of curriculum-based tests in history
- * Study implementation of 3rd-grade literacy policy and how to hold high schools accountable for student performance in higher education

Diagnostics & Assessment

- * Total Budget reduced from \$21.5 M to \$8.8 M
 - * Testing budget eliminates funding of the 4 tests and further reduces by 10% (\$2.7M)
 - * Early diagnostics pilot of \$10 M eliminated

Multiple Birth Sibling Classroom Placement

- * Initial school placements
- * Parent makes request no later than 5 days before beginning of school (or in 5 days if begins after school year commences)
- * Parent may require placement in same or separate classroom; can refuse if would require additional classroom
- * Principal can change placement after grading period if placement causes disruption

"Safe Students Act"

- * Birth certificate required for admission
- * Exception: competent and verifiable evidence as secondary proof of age, specifically including but not limited to:
 - * (i) a certified copy of any medical record of the child's birth issued by the treating physician or the hospital in which the child was born, or
 - * (ii) a certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a church, mosque, temple, or other religious institution that maintains birth records of its members

Driver Education Reform Curriculum

- * Instruction on the rights and privileges of the handicapped and the signs and symbols used to assist the handicapped
- * At least 6 hours of instruction on DWI/related subjects
- * At least 6 hours of actual driving experience
- * At least one hour of motorcycle safety awareness training

Driver's Ed Program

- * pilot program for providing (classroom) instruction electronically in at least 5 school districts
- * salary range for teachers based on license for driver's education

Founding Principles

- * The Creator-endowed inalienable rights of the people.
- * Structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances.
- * Frequent and free elections in a representative government.
- * Rule of law.
- * Equal justice under the law.
- * Private property rights.
- * Federalism.
- * Due process.
- * Individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights.
- * Individual responsibility.

Founding Principles

* A review of contributions made by Americans of all races

Number of Instructional Days

- * Calendar law changed to 185 days and 1,025 hours by removing 5 protected teacher workdays
- * State Board can grant waiver for up to five instructional days for teacher work days if it will enhance student performance

Impact on Healthy and Responsible Students



Concussion Awareness

- * Athletic concussion safety training program
- * Middle & high schools must have venue specific emergency action plan and follow requirements for the head injury information sheet
- * TBICenter@unc.edu will post information

Eliminate or reduce cost of breakfast

- * DPI is providing direction for implementation
- * Audit to determine local compliance

Reportable Offenses

- * Only required to report to law enforcement offenses identified 115C-288(g)
 - * assault resulting in serious personal injury, assault involving the use of a weapon,
 - * sexual assault, sexual offense, rape, indecent liberties with a minor,
 - * kidnapping,
 - * possession of a firearm in violation of the law, possession of a weapon in violation of the law, or
 - * possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law,

Reportable Offenses

- * Basis for believing offense occurred that triggers duty to immediately report the act to law enforcement
- * Current standards: (1) personal knowledge or (2) actual notice from school personnel
- * New additional standard: reasonable belief

Student Discipline

- * eliminates all but federally required 365 days suspensions
- * eliminates "zero tolerance" for long-term suspensions
- * allows long-term suspensions (LTS) imposed in the last quarter to continue through the first semester of the following year
- * establishes detailed procedures for LTS hearings

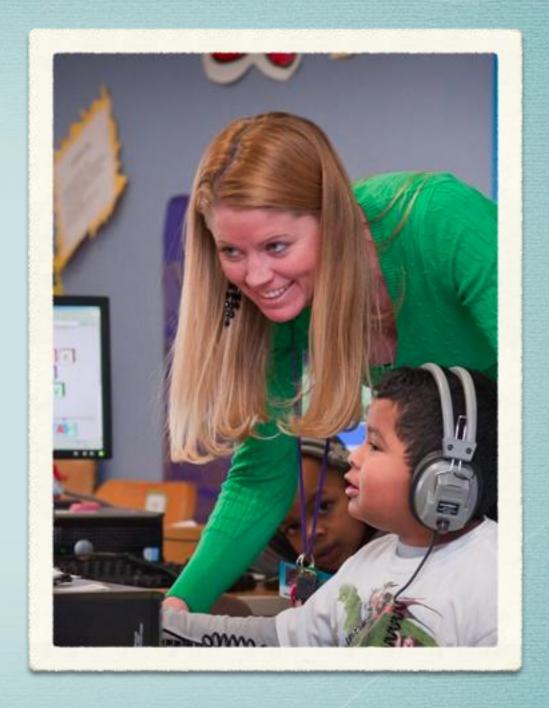
Student Discipline

- * if student accumulates more than 10 days in short term suspensions in a semester, principal shall invoke process in safe school plan if hasn't done so.
- * safe school plan is eliminated in budget bill.

Student Discipline

- * Corporal punishment opt out provision eliminates
- * Must report use of corporal punishment to SBE
- * www.ncleg.net H736

Impact on Twenty-First Century Professionals



Teacher Dismissal Law

- * Clearer standard for "inadequate performance"
- * Streamlined dismissal process if "qualified observer" is used
- * Mandatory improvement plans with timeframes for progress
- * Revised process with hearing officer
- * Notify LEAs of dismissed teachers; license revocation in specified circumstances

Performance-Based RIFs

- * Requires local board policy by July 15, 2011
- * Eliminates priority for career teachers for reemployment
- * Requires the board policy to include specific factors, including work performance
- * Budget bill: furloughs not allowed unless ordered by the Governor (sec. 29.18)

Small Schools/ Transfer of salary

- * Schools created after July 1, 2011 must have at least 100 ADM in order for 12-month principal
- * Transfer of funds out of school building administration will be at the first step of AP salary schedule/ first step of principal III salary schedule



* Renewal credits requirements for teachers must be cut in half, from 15 to 7.5

State Funding Eliminated

- * Professional Development
- * Teacher mentoring
- * Teacher Academy
- * NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission
- * NC Center for Advancement of Teaching state funding cut nearly in half

Efficiency & Funding Mechanisms



Reduce & Consolidate Plans

- * Eliminate local technology plan
- * Eliminate local safe school plan
- * SBE to consolidate other plans, allow electronic submission, adopt policies for state funding applications
- * Local boards to utilize software protocols to minimize repetitive data entry by teachers

Funding Issues

- * Can continue to consider option of capital lease financing
- * Net proceeds from "run and you're done" offenses will go to the fines and forfeitures fund.

More Information

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